REMARKS

Initially, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the detailed Office Action and for the Notice of References cited therein.

Claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JUNG et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,401,100) and KIKUCHI et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,523).

Upon entry of the present amendment, independent claims 1 and 8 will have been amended. The amendments to independent claims 1 and 8 should not be considered an indication of Applicants' acquiescence as to the outstanding rejection. Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 8 to advance the prosecution and to obtain an early allowance of the present application.

Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of JUNG and KIKUCHI. Applicants' independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a platform including a processor that executes native codes, the platform interpreting and executing predetermined codes by converting the predetermined codes into the native codes executable by the processor and causing the processor to execute the native codes for storing the designated plurality of images and the rendition time corresponding to each image in the storage, and including a native code for selecting an image to be rendered from among of the plurality of images stored in the storage based on a specified location on a time axis relating to the playback timing of the video included in the control information, and the rendition time corresponding to each image stored in the storage, and storing the selected image in the image plane. Applicants' independent claim 1 also recites, *inter alia*, a compositor that superimposes the selected image stored in the image plane on the video during playback of the video.

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According to a non-limiting embodiment of the presently claimed invention, the claimed platform converts the predetermined codes of the program into native codes (i.e., machine language instructions) that are executable by the claimed processor. As will be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art, machine language codes are instructions and data executed directly by a central processing unit of a computing device and are considered a lowest-level representation of a compiled and/or assembled computer program. As will also be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art, native codes are machine language codes that are platformdependent parts of language features or libraries; every processor or processor family has its own machine language code instruction set. Accordingly, images selected based on converting predetermined codes into native codes are selected at an increased speed, when compared with an interpreter that sequentially interprets and executes program codes (i.e., higher level computer programming) for selecting images. Applicants respectfully submit that JUNG discloses an interactive contents synchronizing unit 13 that interprets interactive contents, and determines whether to synchronize multimedia elements in the interactive contents with AV contents. See, e.g., column 3, lines 56-64 and column 4, lines 16-24 of JUNG. Applicants further submit that JUNG discloses that the interactive contents synchronizing unit 13 transmits an API corresponding to an interactive control command received forma user to an AV contents reproducing engine 14 and a synchronized multimedia element reproducing engine 15, so that each of engines 14 and 15 reproduces the AV contents and the multimedia elements, respectively.

Applicants respectfully submit that JUNG discloses still images as examples of multimedia elements to be synchronized. See, e.g., column 4, lines 49-50 of JUNG. JUNG is further submitted to disclose that the multimedia elements determined to be synchronized is

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reproduced based on time table information in the form of VOBU. See e.g., column 6, lines 56-60 of JUNG. Therefore, JUNG is submitted to disclose that still images, which are one example of multimedia elements, can be selected based on time table information and can be reproduced together with AV contents. Applicants respectfully submit that KIKUCHI also does not disclose or render obvious the claimed platform. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of JUNG and KIKUCHI fails to disclose or render obvious the claimed platform.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is allowable over the combination of JUNG and KIKUCHI as set forth by the Examiner. That is, the combination of JUNG and KIKUCHI fails to disclose or render obvious at least the claimed platform, namely, a platform including a processor that executes native codes, the platform interpreting and executing predetermined codes by converting the predetermined codes into the native codes executable by the processor and causing the processor to execute the native codes for storing the designated plurality of images and the rendition time corresponding to each image in the storage, and including a native code for selecting an image to be rendered from among of the plurality of images stored in the storage based on a specified location on a time axis relating to the playback timing of the video included in the control information, and the rendition time corresponding to each image stored in the storage, and storing the selected image in the image plane and a compositor that superimposes the selected image stored in the image plane on the video during playback of the video, as recited in Applicants' independent claim 1.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that the method of independent claim 8 is allowable for reasons similar to those noted above with respect to independent claim 1, in addition to reasons related to its own recitations.

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In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of

the rejection of claims 1 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JUNG and

KIKUCHI.

At least in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks, Applicants

respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the outstanding rejections,

together with an indication of the allowability of all pending claims, in due course. Such action

is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

Should an extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application,

including any extensions of time required to place the application in condition for allowance by

an Examiner's Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee

to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Response or the present

application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone

number listed below.

Respectfully submitted, Satoshi HASHIMOTO et al.

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